

The Daily Freeman. EVENING EDITION.

The Freeman.
With his hand upon his charter,
And his foot upon the sod,
He will stand—God is a martyr
For his Freedom and his God.

C. W. WILLARD, Editor.

J. W. WHELOCK, Printer.

MONTPELIER, VT.

FRIDAY DEC 20, 1861.

HAVING CHOSEN OUR CAUSE WITHOUT GUILE
AND WITH PURE MOTIVES, LET US RENEW OUR
TRUST IN GOD AND GO FORWARD WITHOUT FEAR
AND WITH MANLY HEARTS.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

A DAILY FREEMAN

Will be published at this office until further notice. Two editions will be issued, one to be ready for the mail West, and the stages that leave Montpelier in the afternoon, the other in the morning in season for the morning mails. Each edition will contain the latest telegraphic news to the time of going to press.

The Terms will be,

\$4.00 per year, or \$1.00 for three months, to mail subscribers and those taking the paper from the office.

\$5.00 per year, or \$1.25 for three months, to village subscribers—paper delivered at their houses or places of business.

Advertisements inserted on reasonable terms. Orders are solicited. C. W. WILLARD.

Gen. Scott's Letter.

Gen. Scott has written a letter on the Trent affair, which has appeared in the Paris papers. It is admirable in its tone and makes a clear and common-sense statement of the rights of this Government in the premises. He says:

"Nor is there anything, I venture to affirm, in the seizure of these rebel emissaries, which ought to receive an unfriendly construction from England. Her statesmen will not question the legal right of an American vessel of war to search any commercial vessel justly suspected of transporting contraband of war; that right has never been surrendered by England. It was even guaranteed to her by the treaty of Paris; and British guns, frowning down upon nearly every strait and inland sea upon the globe, are conclusive evidence that she regards this right as one, the efficacy of which may be not yet entirely exhausted."

Gen. Scott says further:

"Whether the captives from the Trent were contraband of war or not is a question which the two governments can have no serious difficulty in agreeing upon. If Mr. Seward cannot satisfy Earl Russell that they were, I have no doubt that Earl Russell will be able to satisfy Mr. Seward that they were not. If they were, as all authorities concur in admitting, agents of the rebellion, it will be difficult to satisfy impartial minds that they were any less contraband than a file of rebel soldiers or a battery of hostile cannon."

But even should there be a difference of opinion upon this point, it is very clear that our Government had sufficient grounds for presuming itself in the right, to escape the suspicion of having wantonly violated the relations of amity which the two countries profess a desire to preserve and cultivate."

The pretense that we ought to have taken the Trent into port and had her condemned by a prize court, in order to justify our seizure of four of her passengers, furnishes a very narrow basis on which to fix a serious controversy between two great nations. Stated in other words our offense would have been less if it had been greater. The wrong done to the British flag would have been mitigated if, instead of seizing the four rebels, we had seized the ship, detained all her passengers for weeks, and confiscated her cargo. I am not surprised that Capt. Wilkes took a different view of his duty and of what was due to the friendly relations which subsisted between the governments. The renowned common sense of the English people, I believe, will approve of his effort to make the discharge of any unpleasant duty as little vexatious as possible to all innocent parties."

After referring to the well known persistence of England hitherto in claiming the largest right of search, the letter proceeds:

"If England, as we are here encouraged to hope, is disposed to do her part in stripping war of half its horrors by accepting the policy long and persistently urged upon her by our Government and commended by every principle of justice and humanity, she will find no ground in the visit of the Trent, for controversy with our government. I am sure the President and people of the United States will be but too happy to let these men go free, unnatural and unpardonable as their offenses have been, if by it they could emancipate the commerce of the world. Greatly as it would be to our disadvantage at this present crisis to surrender any of those maritime privileges of belligerents which are sanctioned by the laws of nations, I feel that I take no responsibility in saying that the United States will be faithful to her traditional policy upon this subject, and to the spirit of her political institutions."

On the other hand should England be unprepared to make a corresponding sacrifice—should she feel that she could not yet afford to surrender the advantages which the present maritime code gives to a dominant naval power, of course she will not put herself in a false position by asking us to do it. In either case, therefore, I do not see how the friendly relations of the two governments are in any immediate danger of being disturbed."

That the over-prompt recognition, as belligerents, of a body of men, however large, so long as they constituted a manifest minority of the nation, wounded the feelings of my countrymen deeply, I will not affect to deny; nor that that act, with some of its logical consequences which have already occurred, has planted in the

breasts of many the suspicion that their kindred in England wish them evil rather than good. But the statesmen to whom the political interests of these two great people are confided act upon higher responsibilities and with better lights; and you may rest assured that an event so mutually disastrous as a war between England and America cannot occur without other and greater provocation than has yet been given by either nation."

We believe Gen. Scott has done this country a signal service in thus putting before the reading public of France and England such a clear yet temperate and dispassionate view of the Mason and Slidell seizure."

The letter is of additional importance from the comments which it has elicited from the English press. The *Times* at first one of the most belligerent of the London press, thus speaks of the letter.

"The veteran discusses law like a soldier, and evidently has no taste for the precedents of Hauteville, or Phillimore. But although the matter cannot be disposed of exactly as the general imagines, we may confidently say that, if the Washington government is prepared to treat the affair of the Trent in the candid and straightforward spirit of its most illustrious officer, it ought not to be difficult to arrive at a result which shall spare us a war from which we instinctively recoil, deliver us from the horrible necessity of subservient the slave cause which we abominate, and enable the two governments to settle the law of the sea on a basis more in accordance with the needs of the extended commercial intercourse of our times. This would be a better issue of the Trent dispute than the finest list of ships burnt, sunk and destroyed, and at present we see no reason to despair of such an agreement."

From the above extract it will be apparent that the excitement at first so general in England, was very much inflamed by, if it did not have its origin in, a belief that the seizure of Mason and Slidell was not only unauthorized by our Government, but was intended as a direct insult to the British flag. Persons and presses in England in the interest of the Southern Confederacy, have been for months prejudicing the minds of the English people against this Government, hoping to bring about a rupture between the two countries. They have been distilling a slow poison that has found its way into, and inflamed the blood of the English people, and the Trent affair in their first version of it, set them on fire."

Gen. Scott's letter has already done much to allay this feverish excitement, and when the English people find that this government is disposed to treat the Mason and Slidell seizure in precisely the same spirit and temper shown by the old hero, they will see that there is not the smallest apology for war. It is a question for diplomacy; and if England is willing to accept "the policy long and persistently urged upon her by our Government, and commended by every principle of justice and humanity," that the Flag protect all that is found beneath it, Gen. Scott does not go too far in saying that "the President and people of the United States would be but too happy to let these men go free, unnatural and unpardonable as their offenses may have been, if by it they could emancipate the commerce of the world."

Traitors in Vermont.

A SEVERE WOMAN NABBED AT ST. ALBANS.

United States Marshall H. Dunn of New York, has recently been watching the movements of a female traveller having a keen eye and a mammoth trunk who has been of late so frequently on the road between Virginia and Quebec as to attract attention and of course suspicion.

Marshall Dunn accompanied this woman on her last visit to Montreal—staying as long as she did, and going to Quebec when she did, returning when she returned to St. Albans and all the while nothing her movements, and making himself familiar with the character of the company she kept.

Discovering the game she was playing and obtaining ample proof that she was a carrier of treasonable correspondence to rebels temporarily residing in Canada, he determined to put a stop to her mischievous practices. Accordingly he arrested her at St. Albans on Wednesday evening last (December 18th) and holds her in "duress vile." She was taken by the marshal to the American House, where she remains in the careful custody of Dr. R. R. SHERMAN, Sheriff of the county of Franklin. A committee of ladies examined the ladies baggage and discovered so much treasonable correspondence and of so important a nature that the marshal has transmitted it all to Secretary Seward at Washington and advised the arrest of certain parties in New York city.

Of course the particulars of this correspondence are not known and should not be. Undoubtedly the U. S. Government will give to this affair the prompt and thorough attention the matter requires. It forms quite a funny and interesting episode in the humdrum monotonous life which now obtains in nearly all the country villages in Vermont.

The severe woman calls herself "Mrs. Mayer" and claims to be the wife of a Jew of that name residing in New York. Her efforts to telegraph to him after her arrest proved singularly unfortunate and unavailing.—*Burlington Times*.

THE BUTLER REGIMENT.—The Lamoille County Company, Capt. Grout, recruited for service in the Butler Regiment, came into town Thursday evening. The Company is full, and is, we learn, to be quartered here for a few days.

The Company has to-day been inspected, taken the oath, and is offered as follows:

L. M. Grout, Captain; Moses McFarland, Lieutenant; Gilman Rand, 2d Lieut.; Lemuel Hutchinson, Orderly Sergeant; Charles Martin 2d do.; Ocas Blake, 3d do.; Harvey Keyser, 4th do.; Oscar W. Goodrich, 5th do.; Cooper, 1st Corporal; Henry Carpenter, 2d; Jairo G. Clark, 3d; John McCaffrey, 4th; Cornelius Holbrook, 5th; Harvey Brown, 6th; Horace Wood, 7th; Joseph Farnham, 8th.

The Point at Issue Between England and the United States.

The London *Times*, which we doubt not from its previous course towards our Government since the outbreak of the Southern rebellion is inclined to make the most out of the Mason and Slidell affair, thus states the position of the British Government:

"We may say, then, that the cabinet has come to the conclusion that the act of the Captain of the San Jacinto, in seizing passengers on board a British vessel and carrying them forcibly away, is a clear violation of the law of Nations, and one for which reparation must at once be demanded. In all probability the next steamer will carry out a dispatch, instructing Lord Lyons to demand reparation for the ill advised act of the San Jacinto in seizing the Messrs. Mason and Slidell while under the protection of the British flag. Should this just demand not be complied with, we cannot doubt that Lord Lyons will, under the instructions of his government, withdraw with the British Legation from Washington."

Our readers will not fail to notice that there is no allusion in the above extract to the restitution of Mason and Slidell to the protection of the British Government, and we may fairly presume that the bluster of other English papers about compelling our Government to restore the traitors to the quarter-deck of an English vessel is only a creation of the lively imagination of writers for the sensational press.

The *Times* proceeds to set forth, what are probably the views of the British Ministry, as follows:

"We believe that the cabinet has taken a view of the matter which will be satisfactory to the patriotism and the reason of the country. Without questioning the right of a belligerent vessel to stop and search our merchantmen for contraband of war, our ministers entirely deny the claim which was asserted in this case, and which would permit a foreign naval officer to take persons at his own discretion from under the British flag, on the pretence that they are rebels or citizens of a hostile State. The law which governs the stopping, the seizing, the judging, and the condemning of neutral merchant ships is clearly laid down, and being, at the best, highly oppressive to neutrals, it must be strictly adhered to. This law, even when interpreted by the harsh practices of a bygone age, contains nothing which can justify the carrying off all persons in the position of Messrs. Mason and Slidell, and who were at the most civil servants of the hostile power, and were travelling from one neutral port to another in a neutral vessel. If the government of Washington holds that the Confederates are belligerents, then it is bound by the laws of war, which treat only military and naval persons travelling for belligerent purposes as contraband, and even in that case direct that the contraband character shall be duly established in a prize court. If on the other hand, it declares that Messrs. Mason and Slidell were seized as rebels by virtue of its municipal law, then the right of asylum has been clearly violated. Indeed, on the latter plea, the Federal Government might station a sloop in the channel to board the Dover and Folkestone steamers daily, and carry off every Southerner who might be found. The principle on which our government rests its demand is that a British ship must—until her violation of neutral rights is fully proved—be held to be British ground, as much as if she were an actual piece of British soil, and the right to protection of all persons on board is as valid as if they were on British territory. Now, no such violation has been proved, or has been sought to be proved, against the Trent, and consequently the seizure of the four persons who were forcibly dragged from her decks was entirely illegal."

In another article of a subsequent date, the *Times* discusses somewhat the precedents that are quoted in support of Capt. Wilkes' act, and while denying that any of them are precisely in point, very frankly says that the British Government, however, don't propose to decide this matter upon isolated cases or the practice of ages ago, but to settle it upon what will now be accepted by the civilized nations of the earth as international law.

All these questions raised by the English Government can be easily settled by diplomacy. If the Mason and Slidell seizure is not justified by precedents, our Government shouldn't go to war to justify it. If it is justified by old practice, the act ought not certainly to be construed as an insult to the British flag, and an occasion for war with this country. This country has too long contended for the rights of neutrals, and for the most unlimited respect to the protection of its flag, to now bring a war upon the nation in support of an opposite doctrine. If the protest of England is made in a peaceful and conciliatory spirit, it will be met in a like spirit, and there will be no need of the arbitration of arms. But if England has sent to our Government any arrogant and defiant demands, we, of course, shall not consider them, but simply get ready to fight."

The recent difficulty between Secretary Chase and the New York bankers has been satisfactorily adjusted. The Secretary regards the present balance of the \$150,000,000 loan in the associated banks, as sufficient for the wants of the Treasury till the middle of January, and he has hopes that by that time events will occur which will very much strengthen the confidence of capitalists in the stability of the Government. He has no doubt of an amicable adjustment of the difficulty with Great Britain.

SLAVES IN THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.—The number of slaves in the District of Columbia is 3185. 577 of them are in Georgetown and 1744 in Washington. There are 11,131 free blacks in the District. The total population of Washington is 61,422.

From the Fifth Vermont Regiment.

CAMP GRIFFIN, Dec. 16, 1861.

WINTER QUARTERS.

EDITOR OF FREEMAN.—What steps have been taken, if any, to move this Regiment or the Brigade into Winter quarters I know not. Every day more or less is said about it, but so far as the Regiment is concerned, nothing is done. A new camp-ground has been selected, where timber and water are more plenty, lumber has been purchased, General so-and-so has "rode out there," and similar reports are afloat in camp every day, but we are still here, exposed to all the bleak winds and storms of the early Winter, our horses and wagons brigaded, and no day are we more than half supplied with fuel. The hundreds of acres of timber that skirted our encampment two months ago have disappeared, and the complaint of the Quartermaster is that when teams can be had, he is obliged to go such a long distance for wood that it is impossible to keep a supply on hand. And he is exactly right. The 2d Regiment is all right—they are in the timber, and well fixed for the Winter by it ever so severe. The 4th have lately moved, and are to-day in possession of as good a camp ground as there is in this County. Certainly a more romantic spot could not be found. To all the charms and comforts of the grove, the forest and the park, is added the luxury of a running stream, and the proximity of a good neighborhood where all the minor wants of camp can be provided for. The 6th are well enough where they are. They came here outfitted and prepared for a Winter as well as a Summer campaign—and no Regiment this side the Potomac has anything like the full, perfect and substantial equipments of the 6th Vermont.

THE EQUIPMENTS OF THE 5TH.

When the 5th left Vermont, Gov. Fairbanks supposed we had the same outfit. His instructions to Davis, who purchased the equipments of the 5th, were the same as those given to Hatch, who attended to the outfit of the 6th.—"Buy the Sibley tents and fixtures," was the order to Davis. "I have purchased the Sibley tents, paying \$—, for the troops, etc., etc." was his response to the Governor, when he had done no such thing. So we came on here with the poor, flimsy, leaky, cotton-umbrella affair that no rebel regiment, however destitute of roof accommodations would ever think of removing, provided they should fall into their hands. I will not say that any body made money in the speculation, the cheat, but if there was any loss, the State of Vermont was not the loser. However, loss or gain, the soldiers of the 5th have been the sufferers. But to growl or complain is useless now. The State of Vermont has used us well; the men and women of Vermont have done a noble part, but somebody has cheated and swindled us; more than this, somebody has speculated upon the necessities of the soldier, when arson or murder would have been a crime of much less enormity."

Now, this is the first complaint ever filed by your correspondent, and I presume it will be the last one, as growing and fault finding will never increase our efficiency here, or our reputation as soldiers at home. I have said this much, however, concerning our tents and the swindle, upon the authority of the Governor himself. I conversed with him freely, and what is here said in relation to the outfit of the 5th and 6th Regiments, Gov. Fairbanks will substantiate with documentary evidence. The 3d Regiment is in statu quo, as bad off for tents as it possibly can be, and when, how, or where that Regiment is to secure Winter quarters is not known."

THE "ON TO RICHMOND" CRY.

We hear of an advance of the rebel pickets, their videts being seen this side of Vienna.—Should this prove true, we may have some brisk skirmishing soon, if not an open field fight. Both armies evidently want to fight; we believing that if we cannot whip the enemy here we cannot anywhere; while they think exactly the same thing, and are to every strategy to draw us into an engagement. But I have no idea that they will succeed. We are not here to fight, as many of you seem to think. If the Army of the Potomac can only keep the Richmond forces from moving South, (and they certainly cannot go while we are here,) in less than thirty days Uncle Sam will have an army "away down South in Dixie." Belligerent Johnny Bull's cars with cotton, teaching school for the "poor whites," and giving out treasure by the acre; Provided, the people sustain us in the belief that Congress is neither the army or a "military necessity." A field officer remarked to me this morning that "Congress certainly should direct the war." I thought not, and three "several" times I distinctly told him that I didn't see it in that light. Johnny Bull and King Cotton would like nothing better than to see the army of the North reeling and staggering under the cross-fire of Congressional Chieftains. War is a science, but Legislative Halls, Senate Chambers and Cabinet Parlors are not the army laboratories of this or any other nation. The committee room is an excellent place for claims and contracts, and the lobby for bonds and checks, but shells, shots, swords and soldiers have their own orbits and their own laws, independent of any law making power on earth. Understanding this—and the prattling child can do so—it is easy to see that when battles are fought in defence of this Union, its Constitution and laws, everything white or black that takes the sword, or is a sword against us, must "perish with the sword." War is neither a gentle or very merciful thing. In many respects it is like a mighty river—our own "Father of Waters" in "the beautiful West," larger, deeper, broader and more destructive and terrible at its mouth than at its source. Why, it is not a twelvemonth since the thousands who are now in arms would not believe that a war was possible, and now we find it fully up to our homely simile, and bidding fair to soon become a hydra-headed monster of the first water, ready to swallow secession, rebellion, treason, slavery, and withal the very name and birthright of Dixie and his Cotton Ki g.

Still, still, we are not satisfied. "On to Richmond" is the cry from camp to cottage door. "On to Richmond," is the eloquence of the forum, the echo of palace halls, and the mother's lullaby for her new born babe. But, "we still live," and with "patience and confidence," time and season, will open a shorter and broader road to Richmond than bullets and banners.—Let us then be patient. Certainly if our Commander knows anything he knows when and how to go to Richmond, and there is nothing surer than he will surely be there in due time to

make the army either the upper or neither millstone for treason and traitors.

TWO SECESSIONS.

Yesterday morning, two ladies, (?) who had been riding around the camps very gaily and when it was soon found out that they were wolves in sheep's clothing, or what is the same thing, men in crinoline—rebel spies. What will be done with them I cannot say, though I don't think they will "On to Richmond" till after we do.

ANOTHER DEATH.

To-day we buried another of our men, Corporal Frank Staples, one of the best soldiers in the Regiment. He will be greatly missed in our Company, as he was in every sense of the word a favorite. When called to see his remains yesterday I could hardly realize that "Frank" was dead. It was but a few days since he stood by my side in the ranks, at the head of his company, not in perfect health, but well and happy. Now he is no more. Hearing of his death, I called on the Quartermaster for a coffin. In a few minutes he saw me again with the information that "no coffin could be had before to-morrow night, so many orders were in ahead!" Those italics tell their own story. We have now 107 in the hospital, and 100 sick in quarters. The majority of hospital cases are typhoid fever. We have had now 27 deaths—11 with this fever. Staples died with the dysentery. As I shall write again in a few days, I will say no more about the hospital.

VERMONT CAVALRY EXPECTED.

We are expecting the Vermont Cavalry here to-morrow. They are to take the place of the Cameron Dragoons in our Brigade. Where the Dragoons will go, I know not, but I pity the neighborhood where they may encamp—if they are to prepare for Winter again. What the boys will do in their absence, is hard to say, though it is fair to presume that they will not suffer as long as there is a green Regiment in the field, for—such is life!

Yours &c., SEE SEE SEE.

Samuel Buel, of Rutland, has been appointed Quartermaster of the Seventh Regiment. Mr. Buel served as clerk to Quartermaster Moore during the three months service of the first Regiment.

Mr. Buel J. Derby, late clerk in the Rutland Post Office, is to be the Commissary Sergeant.

Ben McCulloch is reported to be under arrest and ordered to Richmond to answer charges against him for not re-enforcing Price, and for needlessly burning property of Southern men.

It is said that there are 50,000 loyal fighting men in East Tennessee who will rise as soon as our army penetrates that region. We hope the Kentucky column will be pushed forward to their help.

Mails in Montpelier.

SOUTHERN and EASTERN mail closes at 7.45 a. m. arrives at 5.15 p. m.

NORTHERN and WESTERN closes at 3.45 p. m. arrives at 9.15 a. m.

NOCTURNAL Mail for Boston and New York closes at 8 o'clock, P. M.

All matter for these mails must be in the office before the time of closing, to go the same day.

BARGE mail arrives daily at 8.25 a. m. departs every day on arrival of Southern.

BRADFORD mail arrives daily at 4 o'clock p. m. departs daily at 8 o'clock a. m.

DANVILLE arrives Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays at 8.15 o'clock a. m. departs Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at 5 o'clock p. m.

BARTON arrives Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at 3.20 p. m. departs Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays at 9.45 a. m.

WINDSPARK, by Worcester and Elmira, arrives Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at 3.30 p. m. departs same as Barton.

CHELSEA arrives Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at 1.30 p. m. departs same as Danville.

CALAIS mail arrives Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays at 1.00 p. m. leaves alternate days on arrival of Western.

BRANLEY from two to six times a week.

OFFICE HOURS FROM 7.00 A. M. TO 8.00 P. M.

JAMES G. FRENCH, P. M.

Montpelier, May 1, 1861

MOTHERS, or you that have the care of children, know the difficulty of getting them to take medicine, and it is almost as painful to the parent to administer the doses, as to see the child suffer by disease, and you will hail without any discovery, that will alleviate this difficulty and at the same time be a more efficient agent to restore health.—Dr. Gifford's Homoeopathic curatives do this, being as they are, simple medicated sugar pills, they can be administered to a child even when asleep without disturbing it, and the action of the medicines will in all cases be satisfactory. Children troubled with worms, colic, diarrhoea, or teething babies, have a remedy here that is perfectly harmless, and at the same time can be given without trouble, and are good in their results.

Sold by F. E. Smith, Montpelier, Vt., Agent, or any where on receipt of price, 25 cts. per box, by M. S. Burr & Co., wholesale, Boston, Mass., or Philip Lee, 13 William street, New York.

For Effluvia use Dr. Gifford's Homoeopathic Curative, or if you or your children are troubled with worms, or have the colic, diarrhoea, dysentery, coughs, colds, or are nervous and have the headache, faceache, neuralgia, headache or dyspepsia, use the proper medicines, which he has prepared for the disease. Thousands have been relieved and cured by their use, and why should you not? All of his curatives sold by F. E. Smith, Montpelier, Vt., Agent, or they will be sent per mail on receipt of the price, 25 cents per box, to any part of the country by shipping M. S. Burr & Co., wholesale, Boston, Mass., or Philip Lee, 136 William street, New York.

SPUNKY LAMOILE.

STILL AT THE HEAD!

COL. SAMUEL MORGAN having been authorized by the Government to enlist a Company of

101 ABLE-BODIED MEN

to head the

Seventh Regiment Vermont Volunteers, now is the time for the young men of Vermont to respond to their Country's call, and in a position to be doing most of all.

Pay \$20 per month, \$100 bounty at the close of the term of service. Time of enlistment three years, unless sooner discharged. Pay to commence at the date of enlistment.

Recruiting offices will be opened immediately at

Cambridge, Morrisstown and Stowe.

Headquarters at Johnson.

Immediately on enlisting this company will be put under the instruction of Lieut. Shaban, of 5 years experience in the regular army.

Lamoile has done nobly; but let the work still go on. And until the last traces of rebellion have been cast out, let us think of nothing but war.—War to the knife and the bullet!

Johnson, Nov. 25, 1861.

SCHOOL BOOKS AND STATIONERY.

at GEO. WILDER'S Freeman Building